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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/912,133	07/24/2001	Chih-Chuan Yen	PHTW000005	4004
24737	7590	08/19/2005	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			PIERRE, MYRIAM	
P.O. BOX 3001			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			2654	

DATE MAILED: 08/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/912,133	YEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Myriam Pierre	2654	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 July 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 4-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 4-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicants arguments, filed 07/26/2005 have been fully considered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Allen (6,397,388).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 4-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Allen et al. (6,397,388).

As to claim 4, Allen et al. teach

an inherent speech processor for processing speech commands (col. 4 lines 34-40);

a microphone arranged on said remote control for enabling a user of said remote control to input said speech commands (col. 4 lines 34-40);

a further microphone for enabling further users of the system to input speech commands (col. 4 lines 34-40, and col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5);

enabling the user to selectively designate which of said microphone and further microphone is to be used as a signal source (col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5);

input designation means for enabling the user to selectively designate which of said microphone and further microphone is to be used as a signal source (col. 7 lines 63-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5).

As to claim 5,

Allen et al. teach input means that controls the inherent speech processor to process speech commands from said microphone only (col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5).

As to claim 6,

Allen et al. teach input designation means controls the inherent speech processor from said further microphone only (col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5).

As to claim 7,

Allen et al. teach input designation means controls the inherent speech processor to process speech commands from both said microphone and said further microphone, said microphone having priority over said further microphone (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5).

As to claim 8,

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Allen et al. teach

a microphone for enabling a user of said control to input speech commands for processing by an inherent speech processor (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5).

input designation means for enabling the user to selectively designate said microphone (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5).

As to claim 9,

Allen et al. teach a speech processor for inherent processing speech commands (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5);

a further microphone arranged on said apparatus for generating speech commands for said apparatus (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5);

an input designation means for enabling the user to selectively designate which of said microphone and said further microphone is to be used as a signal source to speech processor (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5);

As to claim 10,

Allen et al. teach

transmitting speech commands to the apparatus from a microphone included in a remote control for controlling the apparatus (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5);

transmitting further speech commands to the apparatus from a further

microphone included in the apparatus (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5).

selectively designating which of said speech commands and said further speech command are to be used as a speech input for said apparatus (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5).

processing the selected command for controlling said apparatus (col. 4 lines 34-46, col. 7 lines 62-67 and col. 8 lines 1-5).

Conclusion

5. The prior art of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure Minami et al. (5,555,310) and Schein et al. (6,075,575).

Minami et al. teach voice transmission apparatus with echo canceller.

Schein et al. teach remote control device with microphone.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Myriam Pierre whose telephone number is 703-605-1196. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday from 5:30 a.m. - 2:00p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571) 272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MP 08/09/2005



RICHEMOND DORVIL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER